

## **PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER SYSTEMS BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER A MAJOR HURRICANE**

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Wastewater treatment facilities and Municipalities should prepare for a major hurricane by taking the following steps:

### **Before a Hurricane**

1. update your emergency contact list for internal and external communications;
2. test your remote access and communication systems and ensure they are in good working order;
3. place operating/emergency response personnel on call and review emergency procedures;
4. provide the NJ State Police with 24 hour contact information for your organization (operation center) in the event a travel restriction is imposed;
5. provide an emergency response personnel list to the operator on 24-hour call;
6. ensure that all supplies, including water treatment chemicals and fuels, are fully stocked and secured to the maximum extent possible;
7. test auxiliary power sources and generators to ensure they are in good working order;
8. if applicable, arrange for portable generators for key pumping stations;
9. inspect infrastructure and back-ups to ensure they are functioning properly;
10. inspect Combined Sewer Systems and ensure that the regulators, screening facilities, netting and tide gates are functioning properly; and
11. clear all road storm drains and storm inlets prior to the storm event.

### **During the Hurricane**

12. STAY CLEAR OF FLOODED STORMWATER COLLECTION AREAS (BASINS) ESPECIALLY INLET AND OUTLET STRUCTURES DURING AND AFTER A STORM EVENT;
13. monitor all critical infrastructure components for signs of trouble;
14. monitor *radio stations* serving your area for emergency public service announcements; and
15. ensure all emergency response personnel carry a company issued identification with picture and carry the 24 hour contact number in the event they are pulled over (critical for systems serving multiple municipalities with different law enforcement agencies).

### **After the Hurricane**

16. STAY CLEAR OF FLOODED STORMWATER COLLECTION AREAS (BASINS) ESPECIALLY INLET AND OUTLET STRUCTURES DURING AND AFTER A STORM EVENT;
17. avoid direct contact with flood waters;
18. inspect/assess critical infrastructure for damage, where you can do so safely;
19. any non-compliance with permit limitations, anticipated or unanticipated bypass, or violation as outlined in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10, must be reported to the DEP Hotline (1-800-WARN DEP) within 2 hours of the event or knowledge of the event, or 24 hours depending on the nature of the violation (see N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10). The Department also

urges and facility experiencing non-compliance or anticipating such non-compliance to contact downstream drinking water purveyors and their local department of health;

20. **Emergency Repair Projects:** The Department has developed a process to respond expeditiously when emergencies occur, obtain basic project information, make an eligibility determination and issue a pre-award approval so that owners/operators can expeditiously undertake the needed repairs and maintain eligibility for those expenditures through the Environmental Infrastructure Trust Program. For wastewater, see: [http://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/cwf\\_2012P\\_cwpl.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/cwf_2012P_cwpl.pdf). For drinking water, visit [http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/ffy2012\\_iup\\_proposed.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/ffy2012_iup_proposed.pdf). You can also contact the Municipal Finance and Construction Element at 609-633-1170.

21. Additional information can be found at the following links: <http://www.epa.gov/hurricanes/>  
<http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/index.shtm>

*Should you have any questions about Water Quality Issues, contact  
the Division of Water Quality at 609-292-9977*